## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 2, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

## Dear President Biden,

As your administration prepares to host dozens of countries during The Summit for Democracy in December, we strongly urge you to prioritize cooperation with our democratic allies on critical emerging technologies. As you know, our adversaries and strategic competitors are developing, and utilizing, emerging technologies to advance their versions of authoritarian governance and undermine democracy.

These emerging technologies will continue to have increasingly profound consequences on geopolitics, military capabilities, and economic competitiveness. Authoritarian governments, especially Xi Jinping's Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and Vladimir Putin's Kremlin recognize this, and both leaders have demonstrated their desire to be global leaders in technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI). Any failure on behalf of the democratic world to lead the development and governance of emerging technologies will only embolden these authoritarians and their allies at the expense of global democracy.

With this in mind, we urge your administration to prioritize democratic cooperation on emerging technology at the Summit in an effort to achieve one of its key themes: defending against authoritarianism. Such cooperation should include, but not be limited to:

- Developing, and offering to global customers, trusted 5G and future generations communications equipment to compete with Chinese state-owned companies such as Huawei and ZTE;
- Promoting the development of a democratic network to secure high-tech supply chains and cooperation among tech companies in democratic states to scale emerging technologies;
- Establishing frameworks for the development of AI and other emerging technologies in a manner that is ethical and consistent with democratic values;
- Coordinating with like-minded allies to advance democratic influence in international standards setting bodies;
- Assisting democratic allies in establishing their own bodies like the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to review foreign transactions and prevent the transfer of technologies to authoritarian states:
- Establishing a mechanism with other high-tech allies and partners to unify export controls to stop the use of our technology in our adversaries' militaries and human rights abuses;
- Coordinating with allies and partners on a data framework to protect sensitive data of U.S. citizens, such as genetic information—which aids the CCP in their genocide against Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minorities—from being accessed or stored by authoritarian adversaries.

There is significant support among our allies and democratic states for cooperation on emerging technologies that promote prosperity and freedom. As authoritarian leaders continue to leverage emerging technologies to consolidate their rule and export their governing models to fragile states and regions, the United States must assume a leadership role in offering an alternative to this malign version of emerging technologies.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to cooperating on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

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Michael T. McCaul Ranking Member

House Foreign Affairs Committee

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Michael M. June

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